

Chattahoochee Hills Civic Association Weekly Update – September 6, 2008

ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Buy Our Parks Now! Update – 10 Day Left to Goal Date

Our goal of raising \$200,000 by Sept. 15 is fast approaching. So far we've raised \$109,770, with 10% of the households in our City participating. That second part is important because we will be applying for grants to sustain the funding for our parklands, and we've been told that funders are more willing to invest in communities when they can demonstrate a broad base of community support. So even if you can only give a little, your gift will have a lasting impact on the future success for our parks.

We have more exciting news about our parks. We toured the designated parklands by the Chattahoochee River last week and it is a wonderful property. It looks much like Cochran Mill Park, with the added advantage of half-a-mile of river frontage. While there is currently no public access to this parkland, there is an upcoming opportunity for the public to see this property. The Sense of Place learning series is planning a canoe trip down the Chattahoochee River in October and plans to visit this designated parklands. For more information see <http://www.hillcountrymontessori.org/institutesop.htm>

To learn more about Buy Our Parks Now! see www.buyourparksnow.com

To make a tax deductible donation, make your check payable to:

CHC Conservancy and write Buy Our Parks Now! in the memo portion

Mail to: Buy Our Parks Now!

P.O. Box 204 Palmetto, GA 30268

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Sustainable Economic Development Committee Meeting – Sept. 6

Saturday, Sept. 6 at 9 a.m. – City Hall

The committee is open to the public.

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Chattahoochee Hills Historical Association – Next meeting is Oct. 2

The Historical Association is working on some exciting exhibits. Stay tuned for a profile on "Scoot" Rainey, who was a local jazz musician in the Rico Community in the late 1920s. Also in store is an extensive hand-written journal by Jane Watkins Powers Hinds, who was born in the Gallatte home in 1895.

The committee also have a few needs, if anyone can help:

Wanted: Someone to type the handwritten journal of Ms. Jane Watkins Power Hinds

Wanted: A contact for the caretaker of the Garrett Ferry's property where the Burson Family Cemetery is located. A relative would like to visit.

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Communications Committee Needs Your Help

The communications committee is looking for a few volunteers who like working on assigned tasks more than attending meetings. If you are interested in any of these jobs, please contact Laurie at lsearle@bellsouth.net.

- **Wanted: Someone to build membership database.** We need someone with intermediate to advanced skills to create a membership directory for us in Microsoft Access, from our contact list

created in Microsoft Excel. We'd like options for reporting and address labels. This is a project-based job that may take about a week.

- **Wanted: Someone to manage newsletter mailings.** We need someone to copy our newsletters/updates and mail them to the 25-30 folks in the community who would like to receive our news, but don't have email. We have pledges for a small amount of money to cover copies and postage. This is a weekly or bi-weekly ongoing task that may take a couple of hours.

CITY UPDATES

Public Hearing for FY09 Budget – Sept. 23, 6pm

Special Called Public Hearing #2 and Council Meeting: 2009 Budget (6:00 p.m.)

The City held the first of its public meetings Sept. 2 on the FY09 Budget. There are some important changes in the budget and residents are urged to attend the next meeting on Sept. 23 at 6pm. The City is proposing a significant property tax increase, and it is best if you hear the presentation first hand and ask questions so you fully understand the economic factors that are driving this increase for our city, and for many other cities in Georgia.

FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

C.E.R.T. Training – Sept. 6, 8:45am

Fire Station on Rico Rd

Learn the skills to join the Citizens Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) at the upcoming training.

Sept. 6 – Fire Station on Rico Rd. (8:45am – 2pm) Sept 13 and 20 – Providence Baptist Church

Fellowship Building (8:45am – 2pm)

Pre-registration is required. Bring a sack lunch.

To learn more contact Elaine Bryant at 770-463-4991 or kenelainebryant@aol.com

If you have already signed up but need to cancel, please let Elaine know.

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American Red Cross Blood Drive – Sept. 15, 3-8pm

Contributed by Annie Robinson

BE A HERO! Give Blood! 1 pint of your blood can save 3 lives! Our last Blood Drive was our best! Let's beat that total this time! For those of you think you can't give blood due to a medication, unless you are on blood thinners or antibiotics there is a chance you can give. The American Red Cross has a list of medications that you can't donate if you are on them, but the list is not that long. Those of you who have donated in the past but didn't like the staff, we had a wonderful Red Cross staff last time and have requested them again this time, please try to donate again.

If anyone has a couple of hours free and could help sign in donors for the blood drive or help with the snack table, we could really use your help. Please call Annie at 770-463-3289 if you can help.

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In Farmer Days: Agricultural history of the Chattahoochee Hill Country - Sept. 18

Thursday Sep 18, Sat Sep 20 (PLU Th 10/2)

During the month of September, we will explore the agricultural history of the Chattahoochee Hill Country, as intimated by scatterings of rusting farm equipment and inscribed on the landscape by terrace patterns. Our evening talk and Saturday outing, both led by Dr. Joe Anderson of the University of West Georgia, will explore the traces of that history in the Hill Country region. We will conclude our Saturday outing with a look at modern-day agriculture, by visiting a local organic CSA, Serenbe Farms.

Sense of Place - <http://www.hillcountrymontessori.org/institutesop.htm>

Hill Country Montessori's Cedar Creek Clean-Up – Sept. 19

Email Clifford Blizard if you'd like to help: senseofplace@gmail.com

We will shuttle down to the Cedar Creek bridge on Atlanta Newnan Rd. around 9am. and focus on the stream area on both sides of Atlanta Newnan Road, plus a short distance along the roadside (particularly on the Fulton County side of the creek).

Correction: The correct Web site for the Hill Country Montessori School is:

www.hillcountrymontessori.org.

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SAVE THE DATES

- **Thursday Oct 9, Sat Oct 18 (PLU Th 10/23)**
Canoeing down the Chattahoochee (Sense of Place learning series)
As the air begins to cool and leaves change colors, we will embark on an odyssey down the Chattahoochee River by canoe. At our evening meeting, participants will learn about the river's water quality, as presented by Steve Lawrence of the US Geological Survey, along with Chris Tabit, aquatic ecologist at the University of West Georgia. The highlight of the month will be our Saturday canoe trip, accompanied by both scientists. We will take in the scenery while we learn about the environmental challenges currently facing the middle Chattahoochee River. And, we will pause partway on our journey to enjoy a riverside BBQ lunch. See: <http://www.hillcountrymontessori.org/institutesop.htm>
- **Saturday Oct. 11**
3rd Annual Michael Dempsey Memorial Barbecue
Providence Baptist Church in Rico
Also - The Providence Great Pumpkin Sale from 10am – 3pm
- **Sunday, Oct. 19: Brubeck Brothers Quartet at Hutcheson Ferry Park.**
To become a sponsor, contact Steven Kopelman at stevenhca@gmail.com.
- **Saturday & Sunday Oct. 25-26**
Rico Fall Festival
- **Saturday, Oct. 25**
Cochran Mill Nature Center Halloween Hayride and Family Festival - 5:00-9:00 pm
Enjoy a hayride, arts and crafts, activities, games, a costume contest (at 7:30pm), night canoeing, a campfire and live animal education. Visit our Haunted Habitat, if you dare!
Admission: \$5 member/\$non-member, Children under two years old are free. Dinner will be available for \$4.

FROM OUR FRIENDS

From the Atlanta Regional Commission

- **ARC Photo Contest**
What makes metro Atlanta the region it is today? What do you find unique or worth preserving? What kind of place will metro Atlanta be in the future? These are just some of the questions being asked during the visual component of Fifty Forward called "Framing the Future", a region-wide photography contest open to all metro region residents. The goal of "Framing the Future" is to foster a visual exploration of what is valued about metro Atlanta now and what it could and should be in 50 years.

The deadline for submissions is midnight, Sept. 30.
[Contest rules and submission.](#)

- **Can Land Banks Address Affordable Housing Issues?**

The lack of affordable housing is one of the key issues facing the prosperity of the Atlanta region. Few initiatives have successfully addressed the lack of housing accessible for moderate to low income earners in high growth areas. The next Atlanta Regional Housing Forum, to be held Sept. 3 at the Loudermilk Center, will focus on land banks and community land trusts and how these mechanisms are used to revitalize vacant and abandoned land as well as preserve long-term housing affordability. Panelists will include Frank Alexander, Emory University School of Law; Allison Souther, Executive Director, Macon-Bibb Community Land Bank; and Valerie Wilson, Beltline Partnership, Inc. For more information contact LeVar Rice at 404-463-3284 or lrice@atlantaregional.com.

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Laurie Searle, Communications Chair and
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